

MAKING LIFE EASIER FOR THE WOJCIKS

Agency: Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare

Program: Mobile Outreach Clinic

Services include: Specialty medical and assistive technology services, including:

- Evaluation, mold, fit or modification of:
 - braces for feet, hands, head or trunk
 - seating systems in wheelchairs
 - mounting systems for communication devices
 - other adaptive equipment
- Consultation, programming or training with:
 - state-of-the-art speech generating devices
 - alternative access to computers
 - power wheelchairs
 - electronic aids to daily living

Impact: Every year, more than 140 individuals come to Mankato to receive over 250 services during 12 two- to three-day clinics. As a result, families are able to take family vacations instead of spending paid time off for medical-related appointments, and saving the cost of gas and mileage for trips to the Twin Cities. Meanwhile, local professionals and caregivers gain knowledge and skills about assistive technology, its use and maintenance, are better able to provide ongoing care; and are able to continue the process of obtaining and using assistive technology devices.

My name is Konnor. I am 9 years old and I have multiple disabilities, including cerebral palsy. I love music, playing baseball and soccer, playing video games, and watching hockey.



I have been wearing leg braces since I was very young, and as a growing boy I need new ones made often. I also get the braces adjusted sometimes to make my feet feel better.

Thanks to the Greater Mankato Area United Way, Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare has a Mobile Outreach Clinic that comes to Mankato two to three days every month. It is very helpful for us to have Gillette come to Mankato instead of having to miss school and having my parents miss work to drive to Gillette in St. Paul. It is very easy to get an appointment and saves my family a lot of time.

The staff members that come to Mankato are the same people I would normally see in St. Paul, so it is nice to see the friendly faces.

This program means a lot to my family and me. It makes things so much easier and more accessible!



Your support of United Way makes it possible to bring these incredible services right here to our community.

United Way's funding helps make it possible to bring the Mobile Outreach Clinic to Mankato, decreasing costly travel to the Twin Cities, and resulting in better continuum of care and less stress for families and their loved one with a disability.